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## Curtis Hicks Named First Fulltime Director of the Office of Human Relations

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DAYTON, Ohio, September 24, 1968 --- Curtis Hicks, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Opportunities Industrialization Center (MCOIC), has been named the first fulltime Director of the Office of Human Relations at the University of Dayton, Rev. George B. Barrett, Vice President, announced today. Mr. Hicks, who has a B.S. degree from Miami University in 1957, will assume his duties sometime in the middle of October.

Father Barrett also announced that the Office of Human Relations had been placed under the jurisdiction of the University Vice President. It had, since its creation last January, been temporarily assigned to the Department of Public Relations. Charles Hirt, UD '68, had been its temporary director until July 1. He is now in the Dean of Students Office at Kent State University.

A general statement concerning the conduct of the Office of Human Relations was revealed by Father Barrett. It states:

"In accordance with University goals, philosophy, and ideals, the office is responsible for the development of programs of educational and cultural significance in the area of human relations, the investigation into problems arising out of the needs of students of minority groups on campus, the guidance of those student groups that wish to be heard on matters relative to inter-cultural and inter-racial relations, and assisting the University in developing other programs and an image that will reflect the true cultural, social and religious position of the University in our dynamic society."

The statement went on to state seven specific duties of the office:

"(A) Work directly with student groups in establishing and maintaining true lines of communications regarding internal and external needs; (B) Co-ordinate the efforts of student and faculty groups in development programs of significant educational value in the area of human relations; (C) Serve as liaison between University organizations and outside community groups in developing programs of educational and cultural values to the underprivileged and undereducated; (D) Co-originate investigative measures with appropriate University officials as required; (E) Serve on committees and councils as directed by appropriate University officials;



(F) Conduct research of significance in the areas of human relations as necessary; and (G) perform other tasks and assume those responsibilities as may be assigned by proper authority.

Mr. Hicks, who was born in Summerland, Mississippi, has been in the Southwestern Ohio area for most of the last 13 years and following a four-year stint in the U.S. Navy from 1951 to 1955. He went on inactive duty in 1955 and was honorably discharged in 1959. He resumed his work toward a college degree at Miami University in Oxford in 1955 and received his bachelor of science in political science degree in 1957.

He was awarded his master of arts degree in the social sciences at Miami in 1962 and since has taken additional course work for certification as a junior high and senior high school counselor and as a school administrator.

Mr. Hicks has taught in the elementary and high schools in Dayton and served as counselor at both levels. He has been associated with Miami Chapel and Highview elementary schools and Dunbar High School. He also was varsity tennis coach at Dunbar and served as a vocational counselor and supervisor of the Neighborhood Youth Corps.

In September, 1966, he was named Supervisor of VISTA (Volunteers In-Service To America) and in that capacity developed programs for and supervision of VISTA volunteers in community service work.

He was named executive director of the Montgomery County Opportunities Industrialization Center (MCOIC) in September, 1967, and will leave that position to join the University of Dayton.

Mr. Hicks' wife, Ernestine, is a native of South Carolina. The couple has two children, Anthony, age 5, and Johnny Bruce, one year.